



Live Lesson Notes

Geography

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1. Useful Links

My **GOLD** online course for **IELTS Speaking**

<https://courses.keithspeakingacademy.com/p/ielts-speaking-get-band-7-gold>

My **FREE** online course for **Crack IELTS Speaking Part 1**

courses.keithspeakingacademy.com/p/crack-ielts-speaking-part-1

What is **geography**?

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/what-is-geography/>

World Geography **games**

<https://world-geography-games.com/index.html>

Amazing documentary with **David Attenborough**

[A life on our Planet](#)

Live Lesson on The **Environment**

<https://keithspeakingacademy.com/ielts-speaking-environment-lesson-vocabulary/>

Follow me on **social media**

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<https://www.youtube.com/@EnglishSpeakingSuccess>

IELTS Speaking: Geography

Fill in the gap with one word

1. **Physical** geography is the study of **landforms** such as _____.
2. A **cartographer** is a person who makes _____

Answers at bottom of PDF

IELTS Speaking Tip

When talking about **specialised subjects (art, history, geography, economics...)**...here are 3 useful phrases

- I'm **not an expert** but, I think _____
- I'm **by no means an expert but**, I think _____
- I'm **far from being an expert** in this field but, I think _____

IELTS Speaking Topic: Geography



Watch Stan talking about what he thinks about geography and his geography teacher at school.



- 1) Did he like his geographer teacher?
- 2) How many times does he say '**geography**'?

Answers at bottom of PDF

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Geography

What is geography?

*Geography is the study of **places** and the relationships between **people** and their **environments**.*

Geography (n.) /dʒi'ɒgrəfi/

Geo = related to the **earth**
Graphic = **writing**

Geographer (n.)

= An expert in geography

Geographic (adj.)

- Geographic features
- Geographic region / area / location

There are 2 main types of geography

1) **Physical geography**

This involves the study of landforms, seasons, climate, and the atmosphere.

2) **Human geography**

This involves the study of the network of people and cultures on the Earth.

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Physical Geography

A **map** (n.)

To **map** (v.)
= to draw a map

To **map out** (v.) [idiomatic]
= to plan something in detail

Cartography (n.)
= the science and practice of drawing maps

Topography (n.)
= the physical appearance of natural features of land

A mountain (n.)

Mountainous (adj.)

Landforms

- peninsular (almost an island)
- island (land surrounded by sea)
- mountain **range** (a group of mountains)
- archipelago (a group of islands)
- coastline

Geographical regions can include areas within a country, an actual country or a continent.

Continent (n.)
= a continuous mass of land, generally recognised as a collective regions (e.g. Asia, Europe)

[How many continents are there?](#)

We use the following to accurately mark the position of places on the earth.

Equator

= a line around the centre of the earth, dividing the northern and southern hemispheres.

Latitude

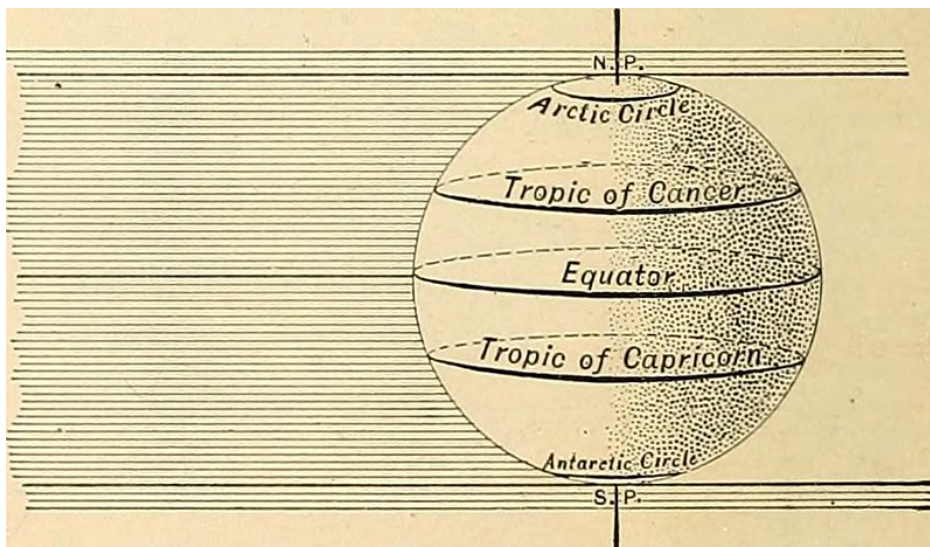
= a line running around the earth, east and west, and parallel to the equator.

Longitude

= a line running from the north pole to south pole.

Tropic of Cancer

Tropic of Capricorn



Geography Jokes! 😄

1) Why are mountains the funniest place to travel to?

2) What's the best thing about Switzerland?

Answers at bottom of PDF

IELTS Speaking Topic: Human Geography

Culture (language, religion, politics, economics)

Population (size, density, distribution, migration)

Human activity and the environment (farming, climate change...)

Capital cities

Flags

[Play some geography games](#) to test your knowledge of flags, capitals and countries.

Spot the flag!

Which countries are these flags from?

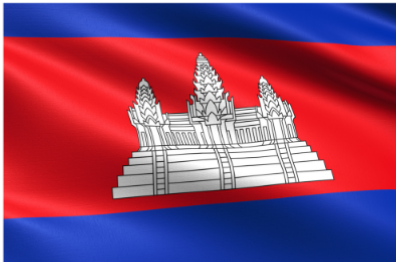
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Answers at bottom of PDF

IELTS Listening Bingo



- 1) **Listen** to this person talking about Geography
Mark a box when you hear the exact words in it.

<https://on.soundcloud.com/hGLZg>

Geology	Cartography	Make out
Geographical regions	Archipelagos	Weather patterns
Navigation	Mountain peaks	Global warming

Answers at bottom of PDF

ANSWERS

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Geography

Fill in the gap with one word

1. **Physical** geography is the study of **landforms** such as **_mountains, rivers, lakes, hills, valley, caves, plateau, island, volcano_____**.
2. A **cartographer** is a person who makes **_maps_____**

IELTS Speaking Topic: Geography



Watch Stan talking about what he thinks about geography and his geography teacher at school.

- 1) Did he like his geographer teacher?

No, he didn't

- 2) How many times does he say 'geography'?

7 times.

Full script

So, let me tell you about my old geography teacher. Mr Boar, seriously 'b-o-a-r' how ironic, because he was a bore — what a disaster. Look, I get it, physical geography can be complicated, but he made it so boring!

He'd put up a map, right? But instead of actually teaching us how to map out continents or understand different landforms, he'd just read out meaningless sentences and get us to repeat aloud....

topography blah blah blah
archipelago blah blah blah
meaningless drivel blah blah blah

He loved showing us these outdated graphs, line charts, bar charts, you name it. But ask him to connect climate to human activity and the environment? Forget it.

The worst was when we were supposed to learn about human geography. Instead, he'd just make us memorise capital cities and flags — as if that's all geography is!

I mean, geography is so much more than that. It's about understanding our world, how people live, and the forces shaping our Earth. But with him? I learned more from hiking in the mountains on Saturday than in his class.

Geography Jokes! 😄

1) Why are mountains the funniest place to travel to?

Because they're **hill areas**!

Explanation:

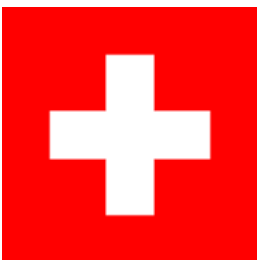
It's a play on words. 'Hill areas' and 'hilarious' are homophones, having the same pronunciation

2) What's the best thing about Switzerland?

I don't know, but the flag is a big plus!

Explanation:

To be a big plus = to be a bonus or an advantage A plus is this mathematical sign + which is also used for the flag of Switzerland.



Spot the flag!

Which countries are these flags from?

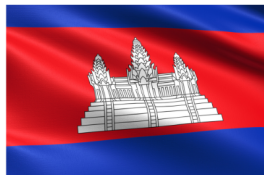
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1. Belgium
2. Nigeria
3. Cambodia
4. Wales

IELTS Listening Bingo



1) Listen to this person talking about Geography

Mark a box when you hear the exact words in it.

Geology	Cartography	Make out
Geographical regions	Archipelagos	Weather patterns
Navigation	Mountain peaks	Global warming

Full Script

Welcome to this mini-lesson on Physical and Human Geography, a fascinating field that **delves into** (=look into / investigate) the very layout and characteristics of our Earth.

Have you ever **marvelled at** (=to be fascinated by / to be in awe at) a map? That's cartography at work, helping us to map out continents, countries, and even our local neighbourhoods. But it's not just about lines on a paper; it's about understanding the topography, **the highs and lows** that make up our landscape.

From the peninsular formations that shape (=to influence) our coastlines to the complex archipelagos **dotting** (=to look like dots) our oceans, from towering (=very tall) **mountain ranges** to unique landforms like islands, physical geography gives us a framework to understand our world.

It doesn't stop there—climate and geographical regions also come into play, affecting everything from **weather patterns** to agriculture, and by extension, our very way of life.

So why is this important to you? Whether you're planning a vacation, concerned about **climate change**, or just curious about the Earth we **inhabit** (=to live on), physical geography offers answers and insights.

It helps us navigate not just maps, but also our everyday lives.



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